

NASSIF et al
Serial No. Unknown
U.S. National Phase of PCT/EP00/06943

24. (Amended) A therapeutic composition useful in treating humans with Neisseria meningitidis disease comprising at least one antibody directed against the polypeptide of claim 1 and a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

The above amendments are made to place the claims in a more traditional format.

A paper and computer-readable form of the Sequence Listing are attached. The attached paper and computer-readable copies of the Sequence Listing are the same. No new matter has been added. A separate Statement to this effect is attached. A separate amendment to the specification to include the Sequence Listing is not believed to be required however the Office is requested to advise the undersigned if otherwise.

Return of an initialed copy of the attached PTO-1449 Form, pursuant to MPEP §609, is requested.

An early and favorable Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

5. (Amended) An immunogenic fragment of the polypeptide as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 4] claim 1 in which the immunogenic activity of said immunogenic fragment is substantially the same as the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO : 4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO : 10, SEQ ID NO : 12, SEQ ID NO : 14, SEQ ID NO : 16, SEQ ID NO : 18, SEQ ID NO : 20, SEQ ID NO : 22, SEQ ID NO : 24, SEQ ID NO : 26, SEQ ID NO : 28, SEQ ID NO : 30, SEQ ID NO : 32, SEQ ID NO : 34, SEQ ID NO : 36, SEQ ID NO : 38, SEQ ID NO : 40, SEQ ID NO : 42, SEQ ID NO : 44, SEQ ID NO : 46, SEQ ID NO : 48, SEQ ID NO : 50, SEQ ID NO : 52, SEQ ID NO : 54, SEQ ID NO : 56, SEQ ID NO : 58, SEQ ID NO : 60, SEQ ID NO : 62, SEQ ID NO : 64, SEQ ID NO : 66, SEQ ID NO : 68, SEQ ID NO : 70, SEQ ID NO : 72, SEQ ID NO : 74, SEQ ID NO : 76, SEQ ID NO : 78, SEQ ID NO : 80, SEQ ID NO : 82, SEQ ID NO : 84, SEQ ID NO : 86, SEQ ID NO : 88, SEQ ID NO : 90.

9. (Amended) The isolated polynucleotide as claimed in [any one of claims 6 to 8] claim 6 in which the identity is at least 95% to SEQ ID NO : 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, or 89.

13. (Amended) An expression vector or a recombinant live microorganism comprising an isolated polynucleotide according to [any one of claims 6-12] claim 6.

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16. (Amended) A process for expressing a polynucleotide of [any one of claims 6 – 12] claim 6 comprising transforming a host cell with the expression vector comprising at least one of said polynucleotides and culturing said host cell under conditions sufficient for expression of any one of said polynucleotides.

17. (Amended) A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the polypeptide of [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Amended) A vaccine composition comprising an effective amount of the polynucleotide of [any one of claims 6 to 12] claim 6 and a pharmaceutically effective carrier.

19. (Amended) The vaccine composition according to [either one of claims 17 or 18] claim 17 wherein said composition comprises at least one other *Neisseria meningitidis* antigen.

20. (Amended) An antibody immunospecific for the polypeptide or immunological fragment as claimed in [any one of claims 1 to 5] claim 1.

21. (Amended) A method of diagnosing a *Neisseria* infection, comprising identifying a polypeptide as claimed in [any one of claims 1 - 5] claim 1, or an antibody that is immunospecific for said polypeptide, present within a biological sample from an animal suspected of having such an infection.

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22. (Amended) Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polypeptide as claimed in [any one of claims 1 – 5] claim 1 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.

23. (Amended) Use of a composition comprising an immunologically effective amount of a polynucleotide as claimed in [any one of claims 6 - 12] claim 6 in the preparation of a medicament for use in generating an immune response in an animal.

24. (Amended) A therapeutic composition useful in treating humans with Neisseria meningitidis disease comprising at least one antibody directed against the polypeptide of [claims 1 – 5] claim 1 and a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.